

<i>Title:</i>	NEW ADB BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES, PROPOSED PROJECT PREPARATORY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (PPTA) PROJECTS MAY 2006
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This report alerts U.S. firms to **US\$ 5 million** in new, potential procurement of consulting services under the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) technical assistance (TA) grant programs which are expected to lead to a loan. Opportunities are reported for Bhutan, China, Nepal, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Vietnam. From January to September 2005, U.S. firms, including many small consulting firms, succeeded in winning US\$35.135 million ADB-funded national technical assistance contracts out of a total ADB-financed consulting budget of US\$302.867 million.

The ADB selects a consultant for a TA project based on its prior Expression of Interest (EOI). An EOI can be transmitted on-line through the ADB's website (www.adb.org); afterward it will be acknowledged automatically. Firms may opt to send a hardcopy follow-up EOI addressed to Mr. Robert J. Robertson, Director, Consulting Services Division, with a copy to the ADB Project Officer. The EOI should relate a firm's experience and expertise to the ADB project. It is important for a U.S. firm to emphasize its similar project experience in the country, or in a similar geographic area, rather than present a general profile of its consulting activities. A separate EOI should be submitted for each project. The project name indicated in the EOI should exactly match that listed in the ADB Business Opportunities publication to avoid confusion.

To be considered for employment, consulting firms must register on the ADB's DACON (Data on Consulting Firms) system, or for individual consultants, on the DICON (Data on Individual Consultants) system. Otherwise, their EOIs will not be accepted. DACON and DICON registration can be done on-line at www.adb.org/consulting.

ADB's DACON (<http://www.adb.org/Consulting/dacon.asp>) is a database of firms and other organizations from the ADB's member countries that are qualified to provide consulting services for ADB projects. The DACON contains information on the experience and capacity of the firms and organizations. ADB requires firms or organizations to register on the DACON so that the ADB can consider them for short-listing for a technical assistance project. The term "firm or organization" covers all sources of consultants, such as consulting firms, government agencies, public sector organizations, national and international institutions and non-government organizations (NGOs).

The DICON (<http://www.adb.org/Consulting/dicon.asp>) system contains the names of persons who are citizens of ADB's member countries; are at the forefront of their respective fields; and may be practicing consultants or employees, whose organizations are prepared to release them for short periods to serve ADB; or retired persons with special experience who are still active.

Firms may also send a notification copy of their EOIs to the U.S. mailing address for the U.S. Commercial Service Liaison Office to the ADB, Attention: Frank Foster, Senior Commercial Officer, PSC 500 Box 33, FPO AP 96515-1000, or to the same office at its international mailing address: 25th Floor Ayala Life-FGU Center, 6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines 1226; Phone: (63-2) 887-1345; Fax: (63-2) 887-1164; E-mail: manila.adb.office.box@mail.doc.gov. Information about these projects are likewise available on our website at <http://www.buyusa.gov/adb>. This office works closely with the Office of the U.S. Executive Director to the ADB to increase American awareness of, and participation in, the ADB's activities.

The projects listed in this report are now being actively processed by the ADB. For more information on these projects, the name of the ADB project officer is indicated in the project brief. The U.S Commercial Service Liaison Office to the ADB is ready to provide assistance to U.S. firms upon request.

The following technical assistance projects are reprinted with permission from the Asian Development Bank, from the ADB website at <http://www.adb.org> and appeared for the first time in April 2006. For more information on development in Asia and the Pacific, see <http://www.adb.org>.

**PROJECT PREPARATORY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (PPTA) PROJECTS
MAY 2006**

A. BHUTAN

Project Name : **Financing for Micro Enterprises**
Project No. : BHU 39221-01
Executing Agency : To be determined.
TA Amount : US\$ 500,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Finance /Microfinance

Objectives and Scope:

The technical assistance (TA) will assist in providing support to the Bhutan Development Finance Corporation (BDFC) with a view of ensuring sustainability in the medium and long term by addressing operational issues and increasing its outreach to the micro and small enterprises (MSEs). In line with the objective of the SME/Micro Enterprises Program, the TA aims to improve access to finance, income-generating opportunities, and job creation for the micro-and SMEs, particularly in the rural area. The TA outcome includes (i) the design of a new strategy and business plan for BDFC to ensure that it represents a credible basis for establishing and guiding BDFC's MSE lending operations; (ii) the implementation of corporate governance structures and policies; and (iii) capacity building support to enable BDFC to implement its business plan, focusing on human resource development, MSE lending techniques, development of demand-oriented products and other areas, as relevant. The TA outcome will further enhance the financing component under the SME/Micro Enterprises Program.

Consulting Services: ADB will engage three international consultants for the total of 15 person-months and two domestic consultants for a total of 15 person-months to provide the required consulting services. Consulting services will be delivered intermittently over 18 months. An international consulting firm will be recruited using simplified technical proposal under the Quality-and Cost-based Selection (QCBS) method in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants and other arrangements satisfactory to ADB for selecting domestic consultants. The identified consultants will have experience working in the noted areas in small economies, with exposure in the South Asian region. The international consultant team (person-months are in parentheses) will comprise an MSE/Development Banking Specialist (Team Leader) (8); a Human Resource Development Expert (2); and an MSE lending Specialist (5). The domestic consultants will be one Microfinance Expert (3) and an MSE lending/training specialist (2).

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission completed: 1 April 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place in July 2006.

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B. CHINA

B.1: Project Name : **Jilin Urban Infrastructure Project**
Project No. : PRC 40050-01
Executing Agency : Jilin Provincial Government
TA Amount : US\$ 500,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Water Supply, Sanitation & Waste Management /Integrated

Objectives and Scope:

The technical assistance (TA) will prepare an investment project based on an assessment of the various urban infrastructure sub-projects which will collectively improve the physical urban environment of Changchun and Yanji and the quality of life of their residents. The Project will enhance the quality of water resources, strengthen water supply, wastewater and domestic solid waste management, and improve the urban air quality.

Consulting Services: 15 person-months of international consultants and 24 person-months of domestic consultants in the areas of project management, water supply and wastewater management, solid waste management, central heating, environmental, financial and institutional development.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission Completed: 6 April 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place on the 3rd quarter of 2006.

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B.2: Project Name : **Kunming Qingshuihai Water Supply Project (formerly Yunnan Kunming Municipal Water Supply)**
Project No. : PRC 40052-01
Executing Agency : Kunming Municipal Government
Contact: Mr. Zhao Fei, Director, Kunming Water Bureau
Address: 284 Huang Cheng Bei Rd., Kunming 650231
Yunnan, PRC
Tel. No.: (86-871) 570-0720
Fax. No.: (86-871) 519-9835
TA Amount : US\$ 600,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Water Supply, Sanitation & Waste Management /
Water Supply & Sanitation

Objectives and Scope:

The objective of the technical assistance (TA) is to prepare a project that is suitable for ADB financing and expected to improve living and health conditions and facilitate economic development of Kunming through the provision of reliable water supplies. The ensuing loan project will assist the Government in providing a total of 104 million m³ of water annually. The areas benefiting from the new resources will be the New Airport Economic Zone (62 million m³ annually), the Eastern Development Zone (35 million m³ annually) and Xundian County (7 million m³ annually). The exact scope of the ensuing project will be determined after the completion of the PPTA. Tentatively, the project is expected to comprise three main parts, Part A: development of additional water resources in Xundian County which lies some 100km to the north of the main urban area of Kunming, Part B: conveyance of those resources south to make them available as an urban water resource, and Part C: institutional development. Part A will increase water storage capacity of existing Qingshuihai Lake by diverting water from surrounding catchments of Banqiao River, Shiqiao River, Xintian River, and Tabizi River. Part B will convey water from Qingshuihai Lake to Tongxin Gate, and then divert to the New Airport Economic Zone through the planned Jinzhongshan Reservoir and to the Eastern Development Zone through the existing Songhua Reservoir. Part C will aim to strengthen financial and managerial capacity of KMG in implementing the project, and operating and managing the facilities constructed under the project.

Consulting Services: 14 person-months of international consultants and 37 person-months of domestic consultants. All consultants will be recruited through a firm in accordance with ADB's guidelines for recruitment of consultants.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission completed: 31 March 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place in the third quarter of 2006.

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C. NEPAL

Project Name	:	Information and Communications Technology for Public Service Delivery
Project No.	:	NEP 38347-01
Executing Agency	:	High Level Commission for Information Technology Contact: Mr. Astma Ram Ghimire, Member Secretary Address: Singhadurbar, Kathmandu, Nepal Tel. No.: (977-1) 422-4980 Fax. No.: (977-1) 424-3362 E-mail : atma@hlcit.gov.np
TA Amount	:	US\$ 600,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector	:	Transport & Communications / Telecommunications & Communications

Objectives and Scope:

The objective of the technical assistance (TA) is to assist the Government in preparing an investment project which will (i) improve the public service delivery through an integrated ICT network and facilities, particularly to the population in semi-urban and rural areas and (ii) increase the efficiency and transparency of public sector internal operations by networking central government and with local government. The TA will assist in improving institutional, legal, and regulatory framework to support the

electronic service delivery as well as developing institutional and human technical capacity in e-government preparation and operation. TA outputs will include (i) reengineering of government administration procedures and development of common architecture of e-government application; (ii) design of information systems and service applications for e-government, (iii) legal and institutional framework for e-government, (iv) human resource development programs, and (v) feasibility study for the investment project.

Consulting Services: The TA will be implemented over 6 months, commencing from July 2006. Individual consultants will be recruited to provide a total input of 16 person-months of international and 34 person-months of domestic consultants in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants and other arrangement satisfactory to ADB on the engagement of domestic consultants. The expertise required for international consultants will be (i) team leader and e-government specialist (6 person-months); (ii) ICT technical specialist (4 person-months); (iii) e-center specialist (3 person-months); and (iv) project economist (3 person-months). The expertise required for domestic consultants will be (i) public administration specialist (6 person-months); (ii) reengineering specialist (6 person-months); (iii) ICT engineer (2 persons, 4 person-months each); (iv) project analyst (2 persons, 3 person-months each); (v) social development specialist (4 person-months); and (vi) legal/governance specialist (4 person-months). All consultants will provide assistance to ADB missions for processing the proposed project loan, including the loan fact-finding and appraisal missions.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission completed: 30 March 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: Consultants will be recruited in June 2006, and fielded in July 2006.

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D. PAKISTAN

D.1: Project Name : **Power Distribution Enhancement Project**
Project No. : PAK 38456-01
Executing Agency : Ministry of Water and Power

TA Amount : US\$ 600,000.00

Sector/Sub-sector : Energy /Transmission & Distribution

Objectives and Scope:

The purpose of the project preparatory technical assistance (PPTA) is to support the Government's strategy for continued poverty reduction through sustained economic growth by assisting in the preparation of a power distribution enhancement project to ensure a sufficient and stable power supply through the distribution system in Pakistan. The project will also improve system stability and security, reduce losses, and improve the reliability of supply through (i) the construction and upgrading of 132 kV, 66 kV, 32 kV, and 11 KV distribution lines, (ii) construction of 132 kV substations and 66 kV substations, (iii) extension of 132 kV and 66 kV substations, (iv) and installation of and upgrading of the metering systems, meters, and billing and collection systems.

Consulting Services: A total of 15 person-months of international and 73 person-months of domestic consulting services are expected where selection will follow ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants. The TA will be implemented over a 6-month period. There will be 3 teams of domestic consultants working with a designated number of Discos, and one team of international consultants that would assist the domestic consulting teams and cumulate the information provided by the domestic teams and conduct the activities toward overall project formulation.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission completed: 17 March 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place in October 2006.

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D.2: Project Name : Second Sindh Devolved Social Services Program
Project No. : PAK 37366-01
Executing Agency : Finance Department Sindh Provincial Government
 Contact: Government of Sindh
TA Amount : US\$ 600,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Multisector

Objectives and Scope:

The objective of the technical assistance (TA) is to assist the Government of Sindh (GoS) prepare a second phase of reform programs to make devolved social services more effective, efficient, equitable, and sustainable that will have major benefits for the poor in health, education, and water supply and sanitation (WSS). These reforms will build on the reforms supported by the First Sindh Devolved Social Services Program (SDSSP-I), and deepen reforms further. The TA will have three outputs: (i) design support mechanisms for devolved social services that will support local governments and communities in making social services more effective, efficient, and equitable, and sustainable and serve as a vehicle for coordination and monitoring; (ii) plan a program loan to establish these support mechanisms and the related reform agenda that will help develop a selection of policies and reforms to be supported from loan proceeds, and a plan for technical support to improve social services based on local needs; and (iii) prepare a project for capacity building and program support, which is closely coordinated with the activities under other provincial initiatives including those supported by other donors. Methodology and Key Activities: The TA will (i) conduct a comprehensive analysis of the current situation post SDSSP-I implementation, in the light of the Sindh Local Government Ordinance (SLGO) 2001 (including various amendments) and other government directives, and discuss the findings with stakeholders; (ii) recommend second generation social sector reforms to improve the social service delivery under devolution; (iii) evaluate the implementation of SDSSP-I, and examine the legal and administrative framework of devolved social services, and identify various gaps; and (iv) design devolved social services activities to: help local governments improve the quality of social services; and build local capacity for service delivery; develop and support public-private partnerships; and support improvements to make the social sector more effective, efficient, equitable, and sustainable. Support will be provided for health, education, and WSS and solid waste management (SWM), with cross-cutting support for related services such as poverty reduction, community participation, and gender in development.

Consulting Services: The TA will employ the services of consultants for a total of 60 person months. The first phase of the TA implementation will required 40 person months (pm) of consulting services. The experts will include a governance and institutional development specialist and team leader (5 pm); a public finance/economics specialist and co-team leader (5 pm); an education sector specialist (4 pm); health and population welfare sector specialist (4 pm); a WSS specialist (4 pm); an environment specialist (1 pm); a public-private partnership specialist (3 pm); a poverty, gender, and participation specialist (3 pm); a management and human resources expert (4 pm); a monitoring and evaluation expert (4 pm); and an information communication technology and e-

governance expert (3 pm). The remaining consulting services for the second phase of TA implementation will be identified after the completion of the first phase. Field visits and seminars are also provided to improve awareness and understanding of the best practices in devolved social services (DSS) delivery among key stakeholders to champion reform agenda. ADB will engage combination of consulting firm and individual consultants in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants and other arrangements satisfactory to ADB for engaging consultants. The consultants will organize at least eight districts workshops and two provincial workshops in Karachi to solicit views, discuss recommendations, options and activities with stakeholders.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission completed: 11 March 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants to be scheduled.

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E. TAJIKISTAN

Project Name : **Pianj River Flood Protection Works**
Project No. : TAJ 40046-01
Executing Agency : Ministry of Water Resources and Land Reclamation
TA Amount : US\$ 500,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Agriculture & Natural Resources /
Water Resources Management

Objectives and Scope:

To assist the Government in preparing a comprehensive investment and institutional development proposal for improved flood protection and prevention of Khatlon province, which are fundamental to sustainable economic growth and alleviation of the persistent rural poverty in Khatlon province. The main purpose of the project is the preparation of a detailed project proposal for structural and non-structural measures in the project area to address the recurring and worsening Pianj River floods. The proposed PPTA will: (i) assess the extent of the recurring floods and trends due to the global

warming; (ii) review the existing Government disaster prevention/readiness plans; (iii) assess the needs and priorities for investment in protection works; (iv) propose modern flood management plan and measures to reduce flood risk (e.g. flood hazards, exposure to floods, land use zoning), and vulnerability to floods.

Consulting Services: Consulting services yet to be determined.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Fact-finding Mission completed: 1 April 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: Requirements for consulting services to be completed during Fact-finding Mission.

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F. VIETNAM

Project Name : **O Mon II and IV Combine Cycle Power Project**
Project No. : VIE 40081-01
Executing Agency : Electricity Viet Nam
TA Amount : US\$ 1,100,000.00
Sector/Sub-sector : Energy /Energy Sector Development

Objectives and Scope:

Electricity of Viet Nam has prepared the feasibility study for O Mon IV. The TA is to assist the Government in reviewing the technical design and in adopting the same technical features for O Mon II. The TA will address (a) identification of project components suitable for ADB financing, including transmission and substation equipment; (ii) preparation of a detailed Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) and summary EIA (SEIA) including the cumulative impact assessment; (iii) social assessment and preparation of a resettlement plan and framework (if needed); (iv) procurement

packages; (v) preparation of draft bid documents; (vi) economic and financial assessment of the project; (vii) identify capacity building needs of the executing and implementing agencies in operational, social, environmental issues; (viii) provision of engineering and other managerial services; and (ix) training. The TA will also support the tendering process for the private sector to implement O Mon II. The project will be awarded to a private sector investor under a transparent and competitive bid process. This will be done in four phases. Phase I will entail the review of technical parameters, preparing the pre-qualification notice and the request for proposal (RFP) document that contains the full set of draft Project Agreements, Power Purchase Agreement, Implementation Agreement, Fuel Supply Agreement and Land Lease Agreement. In Phase II, consultants will assist in the prebid meetings, clarifying questions and comments on the draft Project Agreement. In Phase III, the consultants will assist the Ministry of Industry (MOI) in the evaluation of technical and financial bids. The consultants will also assist MOI in obtaining the final approval to issue the Letter of Intent. In Phase IV, consultants will assist MOI/Government during negotiations and finalization of Project Agreements.

Consulting Services: ADB will select and engage an international consulting firm supported by associated domestic consultants, with relevant experience in all aspects of the specified scope of work, in accordance with the Guidelines on Use of Consultants by ADB and its Borrowers or other arrangements satisfactory to ADB for the engagement of domestic consultants. The simplified technical proposal and Quality-and Cost-based Selection (QCBS) will be used in selecting the consulting firm. The TA will require an estimated 22 person-months of international and 16 person-months of domestic consulting services.

Environmental Assessment: To be determined.

Project Processing Stage: Beginning of Fact-finding Mission: May 2006.

Recruitment of Consultants: Recruitment of consultants is expected to take place in June 2006.

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